

ON NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 12th June 1880.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
1	"Bhārat Shramajīvi"	Calcutta	2,100	
2	"Grāmvartā Prakāshikā"	Comercolly	175	
3	"Sansodhinī"	Chittagong	600	
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
4	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto	.....
5	"Rajshahye Samvād"	Rajshahye	31	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
6	"Ananda Bazar Patrikā"	Calcutta	700	1st and 8th June 1880.
7	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto	.....	4th June 1880.
8	"Bhārat Mihir"	Mymensingh	671	1st ditto.
9	"Bengal Advertiser"	Calcutta	2,000	
10	"Bardwān Sanjivani"	Bardwān	296	1st and 8th June 1880.
11	"Dacca Prakāsh"	Dacca	350	6th June 1880.
12	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly	745	4th ditto.
13	"Hindu Hitaishinī"	Dacca	300	
14	"Hindu Ranjikā"	Beauleah, Rājshāhye...	200	2nd ditto.
15	"Howrah Hitakari"	Bethar, Howrah	400	
16	"Medinī"	Midnapore	250	2nd ditto.
17	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi"	Berhampore	.....
18	"Navavibhākar"	Calcutta	850	7th ditto.
19	"Pratikār"	Berhampore	275	
20	"Rangpore Dik Prakāsh"	Kākinīā, Rangpore	250	3rd ditto.
21	"Sādhārani"	Chinsurah	500	6th ditto.
22	"Sahachar"	Calcutta	500	31st May 1880.
23	"Samālochak"	Ditto	1,000	11th June 1880.
24	"Samāchār Sār"	Allahabad	350	
25	"Sanjivani"	Mymensingh	260	
26	"Som Prakāsh"	Calcutta	.....	7th ditto.
27	"Sulabha Samāchār"	Ditto	4,000	5th ditto.
28	"Shārad Kaumudī"	Bhowanipore	300	
29	"Srihatta Prakāsh"	Sylhet	440	31st May 1880.
30	"Tripurā Vartāvaha"	Commillah	.....	5th June 1880.
<i>Tri-weekly.</i>				
31	"Samāchār Sudhāvarshan"	Calcutta	.....
<i>Daily.</i>				
32	"Samvād Prabhākar"	Ditto	700	2nd to 9th June 1880.
33	"Samvād Pūrnachandrodaya"	Ditto	300	5th to 10th ditto.
34	"Samāchār Chandrikā"	Ditto	625	1st, 5th, 7th, and 8th June 1880.
35	"Banga Vidyā Prakāshikā"	Ditto	500	5th and 8th June 1880.
36	"Prabhāti"	Ditto	.....	4th to 9th ditto.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
37	"Murshidābād Patrikā"	Berhampore	487	28th May 1880.
ENGLISH AND URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
38	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta	365	5th June 1880.
HINDI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
39	"Behār Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna	500	3rd ditto.
40	"Bhārat Mitra"	Calcutta	500	3rd ditto.
41	"Jagat Mitra"	Ditto	157	9th ditto.
42	"Sār Sudhānidhi"	Ditto	200	7th ditto.
PERSIAN.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
43	"Jām-Jahān-numā"	Ditto	250	4th ditto.

POLITICAL.

SOM PRAKASH,
June 7th, 1880.

For some years past, observes the *Som Prakāsh* of the 7th June, the vice royalty of India has been conferred on, and accepted by, English Peers who, having

The Marquis of Ripon. felt a satiety with the pleasures of life at home, have desired a change. Such men, when they come out to India, throw all their work on the shoulders of their ministers, while they themselves take it easy and spend their time in travelling by rail, in holding durbars, making sojourns in the hills, and undertaking shooting excursions. The new Viceroy, however, does not appear to be a man of this type. Not having any knowledge of how he will work, it is as yet premature to express any opinion regarding him; but the sincerely religious cast of his mind leads us to hope that India will not be a mere sporting ground to His Excellency. A strong sense of duty, generosity, and benevolence are often found united to piety. His Excellency will doubtless see everything for himself, and, if he does this, he will earn fame. He might well, however, dispense with the necessity of taxing his powers to find out a policy which should be original. His popularity would know no bounds if he only repealed the license tax and the other most oppressive measures of the late administration. But something more than this is expected of him. He should leave behind him in India some monument of his fame which would benefit both Government and the people. They would fain hope that his name will be associated with the introduction of a system of representative government into this country. A considerable amount of opposition will have to be encountered if he takes the matter in hand, and it will require all his courage and perseverance to carry it through. In conclusion, the writer would pray and hope that the atmosphere of Indian official society may not engender such a perversion of mind in the new Viceroy as it did in his predecessor.

SOM PRAKASH.

2. The same paper writes a long article on what it believes to be a memorial made by Yakub Khan to the

Yakub Khan's letter to Lord Ripon. Marquis of Ripon, a document which was published in the *Statesman* newspaper of Calcutta. The *Som Prakāsh* supports the memorial, and asks that Government should either let the public see if there is any proof of Yakub's guilt, or else to reseal him on the throne of Cabul, he being the rightful owner thereof. The new Viceroy is warned against the danger of following the evil counsel of the Indian officials.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
June 8th, 1880.

3. We take the following from the *Ananda Bazar Patrikā*, of the 8th June:—Last month there was an

A new Catechism. examination held in England, and conducted by the authorities, the subject whereof was whether the people of India should be entrusted with the work of Government. Ten natives of this country appeared at the examination, and were examined in the principles of the policy which their fellow countrymen have during the last six years learnt under the administration of Lord Lytton, Sir John Strachey, and of Sir Ashley Eden and other Conservative rulers. We give below some of the more important questions set, and the answers given, at this examination—

Question.—How should India be governed?

Answer.—By bringing about a war against Afghanistan, gagging the vernacular newspapers, passing into law an Arms Act, and saddling with taxes the poor and moneyless people of this country.

Question.—What else should be done?

Answer.—Those that are entrusted with the work of Government should proceed either to Simla, Darjeeling, Nynetal, or to any other hill station and there pass their days in pleasure. If there should be a famine in the

land, they should be prepared to say that there is really no distress among the people, or, if there is, it is in no way due to the action of Government.

Question.—What else?

Answer.—There should be an incessant shower of laws. If necessary, laws should be passed in the Council room with closed doors, and independent members should either be skilfully won over or forcibly expelled. No member shall have the right to protest against any law which may be passed by the authorities in Council, while the object of legislation shall always be to increase the authority of the rulers and curtail the powers of the people.

Question.—What else?

Answer.—Submissive followers should always be supported without judging of their merits. To gain any object that might be in view, officers must be dismissed without according them a fair trial. Should necessity arise, not only should submissive men be appointed to the public service, but submissive and beloved women also supported; with this difference, however, that as partiality shown publicly to women might lead to scandal, they should be given either secret appointments under Government or their relations should be supported.

Question.—What else?

Answer.—Impartiality should be observed in the administration of justice. As the people of India are tender-hearted, those that are convicted of most heinous crimes should, precisely on that account, be condignly punished. Every one who has committed a murder should be made to undergo capital punishment without distinction of caste or race. One thing, however, must be always borne in mind, namely, that as the Europeans are educated and enlightened Christians, and as it is they who have introduced the Criminal Procedure Code into this country, it is impossible for them to infringe its provisions. Whenever, therefore, any complaint is lodged against them in any criminal court, the presiding officer should presume that the plaintiff and his witnesses are making false statements. Judicial officers should also be aware that for Europeans to commit murders is an impossibility. Hence, whenever a European is charged with murder, the charge must be considered groundless; and it is to be presumed that the deceased must have met with his death either from a rupture of the spleen, or that the European accused must have been of unsound mind.

Question.—What else should be done in the matter of dispensing justice?

Answer.—Those whose complexion is white, who wear pantaloons, and talk any European language are not to be tried in any district criminal court, because they are civilized and educated Christians. Their trial should be conducted only by such men as could appreciate the greatness of Europeans, and for this reason it should take place in the High Court with the assistance of the Cossyetolla jury.

Question.—To maintain an equilibrium between the income and expenditure of a State is most difficult. What have you learnt on this head?

Answer.—We have learnt enough in this connection through the favour of Sir John Strachey. In the first place, the accounts of income and expenditure should be suppressed; and, if necessary, an increase made out on either side of the account. If the people of India are to be saddled with any taxes, there must be shown an increased expenditure; while, on the contrary, if any proposal were made to impose any tax on European officers, Government must be shown to possess so large funds, that no fresh taxation would appear necessary.

Question.—What else must be done in the matter of finance?

Answer.—The highest skill that could be shown by a Finance Minister is that which is required to present a cooked account. Ordinarily a discrepancy of even two pice in any account could not be removed by this process, but Sir John Strachey is so great an adept in this art that he did not enter in his books an item of expenditure covering four millions of pounds, and yet no body could discover the error.

Question.—What is to be done if there is a discovery made?

Answer.—In that case it should be deried *in toto*; and if there is considerable pressure, the whole blame should be sought to be transferred to the shoulders of some subordinate official.

Question.—What else should be done in the matter of finance?

Answer.—If funds are necessary, it is not wrong to levy a tax from the people on false pretences. A Finance Minister should first consider on what pretence a tax could be easily levied from the people—and the object which stated would serve most to disarm opposition should be made use of, and a solemn declaration made that Government wants funds for no other purpose. The proceeds of the tax once thus imposed may be subsequently expended according as to the authorities it may seem fit. What unprecedented statesmanship did Sir John Strachey show when after solemnly raising revenue for the purpose of famine relief he expended it on the Afghan war!

Question.—What else must be done?

Answer.—If there is a need of funds, those alone should be taxed who are helpless, incapable, and uneducated, who cannot raise any outcry, and whose plaintive notes, even, when suffering the most, do not reach the ears of any one. Europeans and the wealthy and the powerful, as well as those that can protest, should not by any means be subjected to taxation.

Question.—Will you be able to fight?

Answer.—Yes! Thanks to Lord Lytton, we have learnt much of the art of war.

Question.—What have you learnt on this subject?

Answer.—The first step is by all possible means to bring about a war with a weaker power. To defeat the enemy it will then be necessary to send among his ranks a shower of shells and bullets, as well as to make a lavish expenditure of money. The prince, who is at war, should then be expelled from his country, and the highest object of diplomacy would be gained if he died in exile. An alliance should then be formed with the son of the deceased, and the former installed on the throne. The next step is to make him a prisoner without killing him. Thus, when owing to the death of one king and the imprisonment of another, anarchy prevails in their kingdom, search should be made for a king in this country and that who should be able to restore order in the distracted land. By dethroning Shere Ali and hastening his death, and by installing his son Yakub Khan on the throne, and subsequently imprisoning him, and then by sending men to almost every person in Afghanistan to provide an Ameer, what wonderful statesmanship has been shown by Lord Lytton!

4. The same paper descants on the moral courage shown by Lord

Lord Ripon and Colonel Gordon.

Ripon in turning a Roman Catholic. His Lordship has had to make great sacrifices for the sake of his convictions. His religious earnestness is almost unsurpassed. His conversion to Roman Catholicism may by some be attributed to the weakness of his intellect as compared with his heart. But the evils from which India suffers have all proceeded from the heads of the rulers. If with brains they had some heart, the untold miseries of the millions of

this country would have been removed by this time. Lord Ripon had secured for the office of Private Secretary the services of a sincere and God-fearing man as himself. Unhappily Colonel Gordon has been lost to us. Their united labours might have proved exceedingly beneficial.

While taxes and a rigorous system of administration have extremely harassed the people of this country, the disappearance of all religious feeling therefrom has been complete. As Providence would have it, for some years past a number of European officials, men of the same tendencies and character, have come to this country, and their contempt for all religion and morality, their selfish greed and love of pleasures have tainted the moral atmosphere of India. This decline of morality has been productive of more harm to the people than anything else. Faith in their national religion and a regard for their own race had long since shown signs of diminution, but the highhanded proceedings of the last few years have shaken the confidence of the natives in British rulers and in the British system of administration; and they are now approaching a crisis in their national history. Every body knows how dangerous the state of mind is which is known as scepticism. If the people of India once fell into it, grave dangers must be apprehended; but Providence would doubtless in that case send them pious Viceroys like Lord Ripon to effect a deliverance.

5. The same paper remarks that the only hope of a settlement being arrived at in Afghanistan now depends upon Abdur Rahaman's consenting to accept the

The Cabul affairs.

Ameership and on the people's recognizing his authority. The British Government sent a Mission to that Chief proffering him the office, and his alleged willingness to accept it has greatly pleased them. Now, Shere Ali was an old and firm ally of the British Government, upon whom it purposely and unjustly made war. He was expelled from his country and died in exile. The reason why his son Yakub Khan was subsequently made prisoner has not yet transpired. Whether or not the latter had a hand in the massacre of Major Cavagnari, it is certain that when the revolt broke out in Cabul, he sought the protection of the invaders who, however, made him prisoner. It is really strange that the British Government which could not trust its dependant Shere Ali, or its protégé Yakub Khan, with the possession of authority in Cabul, is now willing to instal on its throne a protégé, and, as it is rumoured, an emissary of Russia. If after the waste of so much blood and treasure the British authorities really place Afghanistan in the hands of a Russian, men will see in it nothing but a strange freak of Providence.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

6. While exceedingly grateful to Sir Ashley Eden for his continuing the Licentiate of Arts classes in the Berhampore College, and appointing a European Prin-

The Berhampore College.

ciplina thereto, the *Moorshedabad Patrika*, of the 28th May, hopes that His Honor will not still remain satisfied with this much, but will seek to do more for the institution. The establishment of the Bachelor of Arts classes, and the construction of railway lines whereby communication with Moorshedabad might be facilitated, are subjects which it is hoped the Lieutenant-Governor will not overlook. Another remark made by the writer is that the affairs of the College have come to such a pass that its requirements would not be adequately met by merely having a European Principal. A man of established reputation, one who is able, independent, and popular is required for this office. It is to be, therefore, feared that the selection of Mr. Livingstone, who has served in the Dacca College for sixteen years, without receiving any promotion during this long period will not prove particularly happy. The Berhampore College should not be made a subject of experiments.

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
June 8th, 1880.

MURSHIDABAD
PATRIKA,
May 28th, 1880.

SRIHATTA PRAKASH,
May 31st, 1880.

7. According to a correspondent of the *Srihatta Prakásh*, one Radha-charan Das, the only stamp vendor in pergunnahs Chayachiri and Bhanugach of Sylhet, levies from the customers an extra sum on every stamp sold by him. This occasions hardship. The authorities are asked to attend.

SAHACHAR,
May 31st, 1880.

8. The *Sahachar*, of the 31st May, contains a review of the report of the Calcutta Small Cause Court. The Editor approves of the suggestion made

by the Judges that it would both expedite work and save expense if the Government of Bengal sanctioned the use of the new forms in which the High Court has asked them to prepare their accounts. Thanks of the public are due to the authorities of the Small Cause Court for the advice they often give to suitors to have their disputes settled out of court. This has borne good fruit. It will be a good day for the people of this country when they learn to make up their differences by arbitration without incurring the ruinous expenses of litigation. The Calcutta Small Cause Court is often charged with entertaining a partiality for plaintiffs. It is to be observed that if there be some truth in this charge, it is the more to be regretted, because, practically, in a large majority of cases, there is no means of preferring an appeal. The practice which now obtains in this court of a Judge who originally decided a case having to hear it again on appeal with another Judge, and that of not recording evidence at the original hearing, are both productive of inconvenience and miscarriage of justice. The writer is opposed to the proposal to extend the jurisdiction of the Calcutta Small Cause Court. A careful enquiry would show that the preliminary cost of instituting a suit in this court is not by any means less than what would be required in the High Court. Then, again, in closely contested cases, counsel has to be brought from the High Court at an enormous cost, and yet after so much expense there is not that possibility of obtaining justice in this court which exists in the case of the latter tribunal. The Editor would therefore suggest that, with the surplus funds of the Small Cause Court, an additional Barrister Judge should be appointed to the High Court, whose duty it should be to hear appeals from the decisions passed by the Judges of the former court. In conclusion, the attention of the authorities of the Small Cause Court is directed to the inconvenience which witnesses, many of them respectable men of good social standing, are subjected to for want of seats and of some place where they can comfortably spend the time before being called upon to give evidence.

BHARAT MIHIR,
June 1st, 1880.

Education in agriculture for natives
of the country.

9. The *Bhárat Mihir*, of the 1st June, dwells on the importance of imparting education to the great mass of the people of this country; but this education must be suited to their station in life. The work should be taken up by Government and not entrusted to the well-to-do classes, because in that case it would never be satisfactorily performed. Now, of all subjects which might be profitably taught to the people of India, agriculture deserves a prominent mention. There would be no end of ever-recurring famines, if no improvement was made in agriculture. It is therefore the duty of Government to attend to this subject.

BHARAT MIHIR.

The Press Act.

10. The same paper expresses grave concern at the uncertainty which appears to hang over the future of the Vernacular Press Act. Its fate will depend on the character of the report which the new Viceroy may submit to the Home authorities. In the meantime, the announcement that Mr. Lethbridge, the Press Commissioner, will shortly return to India has caused much uneasiness. At first sight the Press Act does not seem to be an injurious measure. It has not been yet enforced in any case with such rigor that

superficial observers might perceive its injurious effects, either upon the vernacular newspapers or vernacular languages. It is, therefore, quite possible that Lord Ripon's report, if not made after careful observation, may only lead to its amendment, and not to its repeal. The offenders against the provisions of this Act will now perhaps be accorded the right of being tried publicly by a judicial tribunal. If the measure be amended to this extent, the public will gain nothing new; it will be simply the rectification of an error on the part of Government—an error which was made at the time of passing the measure into law. The fact is, little need be said regarding the operation and enforcement of the Press Act. It is the measure itself which is open to objection. It stands as an evidence of the disloyalty of native editors, and, as such, is a stain on their reputation. Nothing but its complete repeal will satisfy them.

11. The same paper condemns the action of the Magistrate of the 24-Pergunnahs during the trial of the accused in the Shahpore murder case in having sought by means of a letter to influence the Sessions Judge against them. It is evident the former was impelled to this unwise course by the police, whose interference deserves to be severely noticed by Sir Ashley Eden.

BHARAT MIHIR,
June 1st, 1880.

12. The same paper is informed that the high handedness in connection with the license-tax has not yet abated in Mymensingh. Although the law exempts those who earn less than Rs. 500 a year from liability to pay the tax, still, through the magical powers of the assessors, the incomes of these men have been shown to be above that limit, and they are now being made to pay double of what they would be required to do before.

BHARAT MIHIR.

13. A correspondent of the same paper suggests a new method of taking the census. The operation should extend over a number of days, and the persons appointed by Government to take the census in a district or sub-district should be supplied with forms containing blank columns with the necessary heads, and bearing the words "if any copy of the forms is lost, a new one should be purchased to replace it." These forms should be in duplicate and bound into books, every page whereof must bear the seal and signature of the officer in charge of the district or the sub-district. When a name is entered in any form, the duplicate should be furnished to the person whose name has been thus entered; and he will sign his name on the back of the corresponding half of the form which is left with the census officer. The writer gives other details and promises more if Government will adopt his scheme.

BHARAT MIHIR.

14. The *Ananda Bazar Patriká*, of the 1st June, contains an article on the Court of Wards. This institution, remarks the Editor, in spite of its manifold advantages, is gradually falling into disfavor. An impression now prevails that Government does not administer the estates of the minors with the same disinterestedness as formerly. The management is often characterized by extravagant and wasteful expenditure: witness the case of Durbhunga and that of the estate of the Annada Prasad Baboo of Cossimbazar, which, during his minority, was under the Court of Wards. The court treats the relations of the minors in a most unsatisfactory manner. They are denied even the ordinary comforts of life, while the funds of the estates are expended according to the wishes of the authorities and highly paid managers are entertained. Nor are the interests of the wards better attended to. In spite of means and other advantages, the suits which are instituted in their behalf are often dismissed. The wards themselves are subjected to a rigorous system of discipline in the institution, where they are, so to speak,

ANANDA BAZAR
PATRIKA,
June 1st, 1880.

imprisoned until the period of majority arrives. They come out quite illiterate. These are some of the reasons of the growing unpopularity of the Court of Wards.

SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 1st, 1880.

15. The *Samáchár Chandriká*, of the 1st June, dwells on the inconvenience resulting from the present arrangement under which the Cantonment Magistrate of Barrackpore holds his court for a few hours every day at Dum-Dum. There are many populous villages comprised under the jurisdiction of the latter place, and the interests of the inhabitants suffer greatly. On this account considerable delay takes place in the disposal of cases, and the parties have to dance attendance for days successively. The Lieutenant-Governor is asked to appoint a separate Magistrate to the Dum-Dum Cantonment.

MEDINI,
June 2nd, 1880.

16. The *Mediní*, of the 2nd June, protests against the enormous enhancement of rents recently made in the Khas Mehals of Midnapore. In one instance a rental of 11 annas has been enhanced to Rs. 17. The assessments have been on the average raised 50 per cent., thus pressing heavily on the tenantry.

MEDINI.

17. The same paper directs the attention of Government to the presence of a large number of outsiders in the Moonsif's court at Contai. They have access to the records and are ostensibly engaged for the purpose of assisting the amlah. They, however, are not to be seen whenever the District Judge comes on a visit of inspection.

SADHARANI,
June 6th, 1880.

18. The *Sádháraní*, of the 6th June, observes that the efforts of those Englishmen who waited in deputation upon Lord Ripon before his departure for India in furtherance of the cause of mass education were rather uncalled for, at any rate their anxiety in this matter is apt to be regarded with a feeling of suspicion. It is not easy to see why of all subjects, that of mass education was singled out for the consideration of the Viceroy. Were there no other important and pressing matters to direct His Excellency's attention to? The deputation urged the view that the cost incurred by the State on account of high education in India should be reduced, and the savings devoted to the purpose of educating the masses. This paper is an earnest advocate of popular education, but is not prepared to sacrifice the interests of high education to obtain it.

SADHARANI.

19. A correspondent of the same journal refers to the inequitable assessments with the license-tax made in Dinagepore. Those that were assessed at Rs. 5 last year are now obliged to pay double the amount.

NAVAVIBHAKAR,
June 7th, 1880.

20. Adverting to the letter published in the *Statesman* purporting to have been written by Yakub Khan to Lord Ripon, the *Navavibhákár*, of the 7th June, approves of the sentiments expressed therein. The punishment which has been inflicted on Yakub will continue to be received as undeserved by him so long as the proof on which he was convicted is not published by Government. It is to be hoped that the Liberal Ministry, which is now in power, will deal fairly by him and restore him to the throne of his fathers.

NAVAVIBHAKAR

21. The same paper supports the memorial made by the landholders of Sylhet to Government against the Assam Rates Regulation, and hopes that the new Viceroy will grant their prayers.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

22. The same paper contains a review of Lord Lytton's administration, in which reference is made to the leading events of the period covered by it.

Lord Lytton's administration.

It is rather unfortunate, remarks the Editor, that the people of this country are not able, on the eve of the Lord Lytton's departure for his native land, to take a pleasure in recounting the public measures of his reign.

23. The *Som Prakash*, of the 7th June, thus remarks in an article on the license-tax:—The Marquis of Ripon

SOM PRAKASH,
June 7th, 1880.

The License-tax. The Rumpa
Rebellion.

has been asked to report on the character of this tax. His Excellency will not have to take

much trouble on this account. A description of the riots which were occasioned in Bombay by the introduction of this tax, and of the imprisonment and loss to which even many innocent men were subjected in consequence, together with an account of the Rumpa rebellion, would be enough for this purpose. The license-tax is a measure which in its origin was tainted by partiality and devised for the oppression of the poor; in its operation it has been rendered doubly oppressive through the overzealousness of the assessors. Adverting to the cause of the Rumpa rebellion, the writer remarks that the officers of the British Government have almost always shown themselves incapable of properly dealing with unsophisticated savage tribes, with this result that there is hardly one such tribe in India who have not had to be subdued by force. This state of things is entirely due to the overbearing conduct of the civilian officers of Government. Instead of seeking to ascertain and remedy the wants and grievances of these savages—the only course that can ever be successful in such cases—matters are carried with a high hand, thus leading to difficulties.

24. The same paper suggests that a reduction might with advantage be made in the postage of registered letters.

Reduction in the postage of registered
letters.

The present rate of four annas for every letter is enormously high. The practice which obtains

in England in this matter should be adopted in this country. The plea that there would be a loss of revenue is not sound. There might be some decrease for some time after the introduction of a new arrangement; but as has always been noticed in connection with the post-office, the increase in the number of letters would be so rapid that there would be a permanent increase of the revenue. A lowering of the rates in the case of registered letters would no longer render it necessary for many, when sending any cover containing money, &c., to resort, as they now do, to various means for evading the payment of the postage.

SOM PRAKASH.

25. A correspondent of the same paper directs the attention of the authorities to the inconvenience which results

The Monghyr Small Cause Court.

from the present arrangement under which

the Small Cause Court Judge of Bhagulpore holds his court for only two days in the week at Monghyr. This makes it impossible for a suitor to have a debtor arrested on any other days. The court is nominally open, but it is practically closed. Government suffers a loss of revenue, because suits cannot be instituted, nor stamps sold, while the people are put to inconvenience. The writer suggests that the head clerk of the court should be empowered, as elsewhere, to issue summonses.

SOM PRAKASH.

RAJKRISHNA MUKHOPADHYAYA, M.A. & B.L.,
Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
The 12th June 1880.

